

1 **RELATED APPLICATION**

2 This application is related to U.S. Patent Application Serial No.
3 10/783,343, entitled "Systems and Methods for Parallel Evaluation of
4 Multiple Queries" by the Applicants named herein, filed February 20, 2004.
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6 **TECHNICAL FIELD**

7 The systems and methods described herein generally relate to query
8 processing using a filter engine opcode tree and, more particularly, to systems and
9 methods for updating a filter engine opcode tree.
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11 **BACKGROUND**

12 Computing systems - i.e. devices capable of processing electronic data such
13 as computers, telephones, Personal Digital Assistants (PDA), etc. - communicate
14 with other computing systems by exchanging data messages according to a
15 communications protocol that is recognizable by the systems. Such a system
16 utilizes filter engines containing queries that are used to analyze messages that are
17 sent and/or received by the system and to determine if and how the messages will
18 be processed further.

19 A filter engine may also be called an "inverse query engine." Unlike a
20 database, wherein an input query is tried against a collection of data records, an
21 inverse query engine tries an input against a collection of queries. Each query
22 includes one or more conditions, or rules, that must be satisfied by an input for the
23 query to evaluate to true against the input.

24 A collection of queries usually takes the form of one or more filter tables
25 that may contain hundreds or thousands of queries, and each query may contain